

Nicolae Paulescu

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Nicolae Paulescu (October 30, 1869 – July 17, 1931) was a Romanian physiologist, professor of medicine, and a discoverer of insulin (which he termed *pancreatine*).

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Nicolae Paulescu

Biography

Born in Bucharest, he was the first of four children of father Costache Paulescu and mother Maria Paulescu. He displayed remarkable abilities as early as his first school years. He learned French, Latin and Ancient Greek at an early age, so that a few years later he became fluent in all these languages and was able to read classical works of Latin and Greek literature in the original. He also had a particular gift for drawing and music and special inclinations towards natural sciences, such as physics and chemistry. He graduated from the Mihai Viteazu High School in Bucharest, in 1888. In the autumn of 1888, Paulescu left for Paris, where he enrolled in medical school. In 1897 he graduated with a Doctor of Medicine degree, and was immediately appointed as assistant surgeon at the *Notre-Dame du Perpétuel-Secours* Hospital. In 1900, Paulescu returned to Romania, where he remained until his death (1931) as Head of the Physiology Department of the University of Bucharest Medical School, as well as a Professor of Clinical Medicine at the *St. Vincent de Paul* Hospital in Bucharest. In 1990, he was elected posthumously to the Romanian Academy. On June 27, 1993, in Cluj-Napoca, a postmark was dedicated in Paulescu's honor to observe the World Day Against Diabetes. Paulescu was also honored on a postage stamp issued by Romania in 1994. The stamp is one in a set of seven stamps honoring famous Romanians. In 1993, a new Institute of Diabetes, Nutrition and Metabolic Diseases in Bucharest was named in his honor. Paulescu died in 1931 in Bucharest. He is buried in Bellu cemetery. ^[1]

Paulescu's discovery of insulin

In 1916, he succeeded in developing an aqueous pancreatic extract which, when injected into a diabetic dog, proved to have a normalizing effect on blood sugar levels. After a gap during World War I, he resumed his research and succeeded in isolating the antidiabetic pancreatic hormone (*pancreine*).^[2]

From April 24 to June 23, 1921, Paulescu published four papers at the Romanian Section of the Society of Biology in Paris:

- The effect of the pancreatic extract injected into a diabetic animal by way of the blood.
- The influence of the time elapsed from the intravenous pancreatic injection into a diabetic animal.
- The effect of the pancreatic extract injected into a normal animal by way of the blood.

An extensive paper on this subject - *Research on the Role of the Pancreas in Food Assimilation* - was submitted by Paulescu on June 22 to the *Archives Internationales de Physiologie* in Liège, Belgium, and was published in the August 1921 issue of this journal.

Furthermore, Paulescu secured the patent rights for his method of manufacturing *pancreine* (his own term for insulin) on April 10, 1922 (patent no. 6254) from the Romanian Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Nobel Prize controversy

Since 1921 Professor Paulescu discovered insulin, the substance which, year after year, saved the lives of millions and millions of people suffering from diabetes. Paulescu secured patent rights for the method of manufacturing insulin (under the name *pancreine*) the Ministry of Industry and Commerce on April 10, 1922. Eight months after Paulescu's works were published, doctor Frederick Grant Banting and biochemist John James Richard Macleod from the University of Toronto, Canada, published their paper on the successful use of a pancreatic extract for normalizing blood sugar (glucose) levels (glycemia) in diabetic dogs. Their paper was nothing more than a confirmation of Paulescu's work, making direct references to Paulescu's article but misquoting that article as follows:

"He [Paulescu] states that injections into peripheral veins produce no effect and his experiments show that second injections do not produce such marked effect as the first",

Which is not what Paulescu found out or presented. Later on, Banting said that:

"I regret very much that there was an error in our translation of Professor Paulescu's article, I cannot recollect, after this length of time, exactly what happened (...) I do not remember whether we relied on our own poor French or whether we had a translation made. In any case I would like

to state how sorry I am for this unfortunate error (...)"

Some have noted that while Paulescu had patented his technique in Romania, no clinical use resulted from his work and that the work published by Banting, Best, Collip and McLeod represented the injection of purified insulin extract into a diabetic individual ameliorating symptoms of the disease. Thus, this is sometimes used to argue that it was reasonable that Banting and Macleod received the 1923 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of insulin. It has also been pointed out that Collip and Best were also left out from the prize, but Banting and McLeod decided to share the prize money with them. International recognition for Paulescu's contribution to the discovery of insulin came only years later after.

Professor Ian Murray was particularly active in working to correct the great historical wrong against Paulescu. Murray was a professor of physiology at the Anderson College of Medicine in Glasgow, Scotland, the head of the department of Metabolic Diseases at a leading Glasgow hospital, vice-president of the British Association of Diabetes, and a founding member of the International Diabetes Federation. In an article for a 1971 issue of the Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Murray wrote:

"Insufficient recognition has been given to Paulescu, the distinguished Roumanian scientist, who at the time when the Toronto team were commencing their research had already succeeded in extracting the antidiabetic hormone of the pancreas and proving its efficacy in reducing the hyperglycaemia in diabetic dogs."

"In a recent private communication Professor Tiselius, head of the Nobel Institute, has expressed his personal opinion that Paulescu was equally worthy of the award in 1923."^[3]

Political Activity and Works on the Jewish Problem

Paulescu is also notable for his involvement in Romanian political movements and influencing Corneliu Zelea Codreanu. In 1922, he partnered with professor A.C. Cuza to create a political group called the National Christian Union. In 1925, Paulescu joined Cuza's later organization, the National Christian Defense League. About this, Codreanu commented in his book *For My Legionaries*: "Now with us also was the erudite professor of physiology Nicolae Paulescu at the University of Bucharest, connoisseur without equal of Judeo-masonic manipulations, who illumined the national movement in the capital."^[4]

Nicolae Paulescu's better-known works began in 1910 with *Fiziologia Filozofică: Instincte Sociale - pasiuni si conflicte - remedii morale* ("Philosophic Physiology: Social Instincts - passion and conflict - moral remedies"), the first volume of "Philosophic Physiology", which argued that people must overcome their negative passions and regenerate through Christian education by following the demands of the Gospels.^[5]

However, Paulescu's most famous book came with the second volume of "Philosophic Physiology" which was titled *Fiziologia Filozofică: Spitalul, Coranul, Talmudul, Cahalul, Franc-Masoneria* ("Philosophic Physiology: The Hospital, the Koran, the Talmud, the Kahal and Freemasonry"). In this book, Paulescu first explains the duties of doctors, the purpose of hospitals, and their relation to Christian rules and charity. He then moves on to the Koran, dealing with Islamic laws and history, concluding that Muslim Arabs and Jews both tend to be very greedy, but that Muslims are better in that they are brave unlike the Jews. Moving on to the Talmud, he goes through Jewish Talmudic teachings, how they teach Jews that they have no moral obligations to Gentiles and may deceive and steal from them in various ways. In the section on the Kahal, Paulescu first explains the organization of the Kahal and how its strict laws and system keep most Jews under its domination. He then discusses the effects of Jewish manipulation of finance and trade as well as Jewish revolutionary activity in various nations. Finally, he discusses Freemasonry, its anti-Christian teachings and its Jewish origins as well as its role in the French Revolution and other revolutions in the 19th Century.^[6]

He explains how the activities of the Kahal and Freemasonry are interlinked, since Jews came to dominate Freemasonry:

"The Kahal is the corrupting factor which changes our state - it is the cause of the seizure, the trusts, the failures that undermine trade, industry and agriculture in Romania - it is the body that wanders through the public newspapers which it subsidizes - it is the agent spreading the insidious ideas of materialism and liberalism, socialism, anarchism - it is the power of occult Freemasonry. The Kahal is, finally, the agent of revolutions that shook the world and, for some time, troubled the peace of the wretched Romanian people. This is the occult Jewish power against which mankind is disarmed, because they do not know."^[7]

In the conclusion of "The Hospital, the Koran, the Talmud, the Kahal and Freemasonry", Paulescu summarized his message:

"While the Christian apostles preached their ideal in the open, the Talmud hides; and its two appendages, the Kahal and Freemasonry, are even more invisible. The three of them use, in order to remain in the dark, a scabrous and accursed means, namely the lie. In other words, the lie is the basis of the system used by Jews, to whom one can say.. 'You speak, therefore you be.' But the lie has a mortal enemy, namely the truth. For truth is the distinctive trait of Christianity."^[8]

Paulescu later wrote more works on the Jewish Problem, although not as well-known, including: *Fiziologia Filozofică: Sinagoga și biserica față de pacificarea omenirii* ("Philosophic Physiology: Synagogue and Church towards the pacification of mankind"),^[9] *Complot jidano-francmasonic împotriva neamului Românesc* ("The Judeo-Masonic Plot against the Romanian People"),^[10] *Degenerarea rasei jidovești* ("The Degeneration of the Jewish Race"),^[11] *Desfrâul Jidanilor* ("Jewish Debauchery"),^[12] and *Tălmăcirea apocalipsului, soarta viitoare a jidănimii* ("Interpretation of Revelation, the future fate of the Jews").^[13]

One of these later works, *Degenerarea rasei jidovești* ("The Degeneration of the Jewish Race"), argued that the brain size of Jews in general had decreased in size due to inbreeding and thus the Jewish people have degenerated in some areas. This book is often noted because it is clear that it has inaccurate data and is almost certainly biased against the Jews in its conclusions, and thus used to argue that Paulescu's other works on the Jews are invalid. However, Dr. Radu Mihai Crisan took a more reasonable stance when he pointed out his doubts about "The Degeneration of the Jewish Race" but still recognized the value of Paulescu's other works:

"I have my entire respect for the qualities of researcher of the man of science Paulescu materialized in multiple and profound studies

and scientific discoveries but I consider that he proceeded entirely as not being honest when showing the photos of the mentally retarded Jews (see pages 22 and 23 of the quoted study) he extrapolated the exception considering it as a rule and even an absolute one. And the relative nondevelopment of the thirties years of genetics cannot excuse him. As those Jews about whom in the *Hospital, the Coran, the Talmud, the Cahal, the Freemasonry* he also tells that they are strategies that guide the World Freemasonry cannot be, in any case, some mentally retarded people." [14]

References

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3. ↑ Ian Murray, "Paulescu and the Isolation of Insulin" (<http://jhmas.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/XXVI/2/150.pdf>) , in *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, 26 (1971), no. 2, 150–157
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10. ↑ Paulescu, Nicolae. *Complot jidano-francmasonic împotriva neamului Românesc* ("The Judeo-Masonic Plot against the Romanian People"), Bucharest: Apărarea Națională, 1924.
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12. ↑ Paulescu, Nicolae. *Desfrâul Jidanilor* ("Jewish Debauchery"), București, Tipografia Raiculescu, Cloșca 19, 1928.
13. ↑ *Tălmăcirea apocalipsului, soarta viitoare a jidănimii* ("Interpretation of Revelation, the future fate of the Jews"), Bucharest: 1941.
14. ↑ Crisan, Radu Mihai. "The Secret of the Fire Sword" (<http://www.archive.org/details/TheSecretOfTheFireSword>) , University Book Publishing House, Bucharest, 2006.

External Links

- *Site-ul Institutului Național de Diabet, Nutriție și Boli Metabolice - N.C. Paulescu* (<http://www.paulescu.ro>) (Site of the National Institute of Diabetes, Nutrition and Metabolic Diseases which was founded by Paulescu)
- *Spitalul, Coranul, Talmudul, Kahalul și Francmasoneria* de Nicolae Paulescu (<http://www.noidacii.ro/Noi%20Dacii%20nr.20-21/Paulescu,%20Dr.%20N.C.%20-%20Spitalul,Coranul,Talmudul,Cahalul,Francmasoneria.pdf>) - *The Hospital, the Koran, the Talmud, the Kahal and Freemasonry* by Paulescu (PDF file)
- *Spitalul, Coranul, Talmudul, Kahalul și Francmasoneria* (HTML) (http://ro.wikisource.org/wiki/Spitalul,_Coranul,_Talmudul,_Kahalul_%C8%99i_Francmasoneria) at Wikisource
- "Nicolae Constantin Paulescu și noi" de Dr. Radu Mihai Crisan (<http://monitor-cultural.com/arhiva/radu-mihai-crisan-%E2%80%99Enicolae-constantin-paulescu-si-noi%E2%80%99C/>)

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